

# COMFORT

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DEVOTED TO ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND THE HOME CIRCLE.

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See story  
"BILLY DALE-COWARD"

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### Our National Awakening

**A**T last our leading citizens in public and private life, including those who are responsible for the administration of the government, have become impressed with the danger that threatens us because of having neglected to provide for national defense. The European war has forced it on their attention and recent investigations have disclosed the fact that our great country is practically defenseless against attack by any first-class power.

In view of present and prospective international complications it is an alarming situation which our government and our people have been reluctant to acknowledge, and even six months ago was denied by prominent officials at Washington.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels is organizing an advisory board of great American inventors and scientists, headed by Thomas A. Edison, to give the government the benefit of their inventive genius in devising the most effective weapons and other mechanical appliances for defending the country and especially for repelling attack by naval forces and air craft. But all their efforts will be in vain unless Congress rises to a patriotic sense of its duty in the matter.

We are glad to learn that President Wilson, according to recently published statements, will urge Congress, at its session which will open in December, to act promptly in providing adequate means for national defense. But at Congress has persistently disregarded the repeated warnings of our generals and admirals in this respect, a public awakening is necessary to spur the people's representatives to drop their political game long enough to give effect to the President's recommendation which is supported by the far-sighted, broad-minded, patriotic men regardless of party affiliations.

The present war has demonstrated that though battleships and cruisers are necessary as ever they are of little use unless supported by a large fleet of submarines and air craft, and that an army is helpless without airplanes for scout duty. We have seen many submarines and planes in the naval or military aeroplanes. Our army and navy are deficient in ammunition and equipment of all kinds. We haven't torpedoes enough for one round for our ships, and our coast artillery has no ammunition enough for two hours' firing. The navy needs more ships, and what ships it has cannot all be put in commission for lack of officers and enlisted men. But our army is even more woefully deficient than the navy, and Secretary of War Garrison is helping the President to formulate a plan to strengthen it.

Former Secretary of War Stimson has pointed out the most vital spot in our alarmingly weak system of national defense. He says:

"Today there are less than five thousand officers in the regular army excluding the reserves, but including all others of all ages, all ranks, all manner of service and detail. This little force is scattered all over the world from the men on duty in the Philippines to the military attaches in the capitals of Europe.

"The most vital of all shortages is the shortage of trained men fit to be the officers of our citizen army—a shortage which is now crippling the efforts of the army, which is one of the few that has permitted Russia to be hurled back from the Carpathians—that is the shortage which in the United States transcends and exceeds all others."

In less than ten months of war the British loss of commissioned officers according to official figures totaled 8,812. The official figures of Germany are still more startling. In but six months of war the great central military empire lost in killed and wounded more than 30,000 officers. It will be readily seen from these statistics that Great Britain lost twice and Germany six times the total number of officers enrolled in the military service of the United States.

It takes the training of years to produce an efficient army officer. He can be no more tempo-rized or turned out in a day than can the other destructive engines of war, battleships, sixteen-inch guns and torpedoes. An ordinary private soldier in a few months of training can be made, and there is still a negligible quantity when opposed to seasoned troops. This being the case, of what use would be officers who had no more training than the privates under their command? They would be more likely a menace than a help in time of battle for it takes not only years of training, but actual

experience in the handling of men, to give that confidence and steadiness which is requisite to win victories.

In a case of national emergency Congress would have to let less than half a million men, and the men would be quickly forthcoming, but where, pray, would we get trained officers to lead them? The officers we have could do no more than handle the tiny widely scattered force which we at present fortunately rely for protection.

The total mobile army within the United States is only about 25,000 men. It would be far better if they were all officers. Then we would at least have the nucleus of a fair fighting force. But they are not officers, and but few of the men in the ranks are qualified to hold commissions.

A little thought and enterprise on the part of those whose sworn duty is to provide for the protection of this country and its institutions would give us an ample supply of officers. Why cannot we have a military naval academy in each State? It would, of course, be the primary duty of these institutions to fit their students for civil life, but sufficient military instruction could be given so that the graduates of these institutions could, in the event of a national emergency, be called on to drill and command our citizen soldiery, and work them into shape for the field. The military drill should constitute a part of the training of every able-bodied boy in the public schools.

While the world is in its present disturbed state, would it not be better for the favored sons of our moneyed class, who spend most of their time in chasing the athletic "bug" at Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Cornell, Pennsylvania and other universities, if they concentrated their superfluous energies on the drill and parade ground? If a small part of the time and activities of our youth can be directed into channels that will mean a wall of protection against the marauding spirit of the age, there need be no fear that the foeman will ever place his iron heel upon our peaceful shores. We want peace, and the only effective means of insuring it is by being thoroughly prepared for defense.

Armies and navies are expensive things, but they are incomparably cheaper than war. What is advocated is neither militarism nor navalism, of which we are fearful, but a republic, in which we should be so strong in our preparedness for national defense that none will dare attack us.

### The Latest Word On Pellagra

**N**EW diseases and new pests inimical to human, animal and vegetable life are continually appearing in the United States. They are mostly imported from Europe or Asia, and when they once get a foothold here it is usually impossible to eradicate them and often very difficult to control them.

Within the writer's recollection leprosy, the dread-scarce scourge of Asia, was unknown here, but Oriental immigrants have brought it and spread it, and now there are many victims to its contagion among our native population.

More recently pellagra, known to have been prevalent in Italy for more than a century and a half, has been discovered in the United States and is spreading with considerable rapidity, some estimates placing the number of cases as high as a hundred thousand in this country at present. Most of these cases are in the South though there are not a few in the Northern States and some cases even in New England.

Very little is known about this mysterious disease except its awful effects which some authorities declare to be even worse than those of leprosy.

The ravages of pellagra were first attributed to the eating of corn meal, but this is now generally said to be incorrect. Its real cause is still a mystery. At one time it was thought to be contagious, but now it is believed not contagious.

In the earlier stages of pellagra it seems to be a skin disease and is at times mistaken for eczema and at times for erysipelas. The sufferer is afflicted with giddy spells, stinging in the ears and unbearable irritation of the skin, certain areas of which become white and red.

The pellagra victim soon becomes unfit for work. During the first year there is a remission of the disease in summer, and the patient feels better. The

improvement, however, is only temporary, for the old symptoms reappear in a more aggravated form.

From year to year the condition will grow worse, the sufferer growing gradually weaker, the pupils of the eyes becoming dilated, the eyelids drooping, sight failing, the surface of the tongue becoming red and dry, and the throat rigid. Finally the whole body looks as though it were mummified, the sufferer frequently becomes insane or an imbecile and sinks into the depths of melancholy until death ends his sufferings.

Several cases of pellagra have been found in Kansas and Professor S. J. Hunter of the University of Kansas is of the opinion that the germs are carried by snails.

The Federal Public Health Commission which has been investigating pellagra in various sections of the south, says in its report that this terrifying disease happily is not communicable but is due to some fault in the diet which has not yet been determined.

It is the opinion of the Commission that pellagra can be prevented, incipient cases cured, and sufferers in advanced stages benefited by substituting a nourishing, well-balanced and varied diet for the restricted, one-sided diet that so many millions are in the habit of daily consuming. The Commission recommends all who are afflicted and all who would escape affliction to eat abundantly of eggs, fresh lean meat, beans, peas and dried large quantities of fresh milk. We hope these facts will prove of interest to our readers and be the means of restoring to health many of those who are suffering from this dread disease.

### Foreign Intervention In Mexico

**W**HAT are we going to do Mexico? Is our Vera Cruz fiasco of last year about to be repeated? It is less than a year since President Wilson withdrew our military and naval forces from Vera Cruz and abandoned that city to the tender mercies of General Carranza's army which entered the city unopposed.

Our forcible taking of Vera Cruz, the previous May, from General Huerta, the self-appointed president of Mexico, helped accomplish his overthrow by the insurgent armies commanded by Generals Carranza, Villa and Zapata. But what good did it do?

Carranza immediately proclaimed himself president, whereupon Villa and Zapata, each ambitious to rule the country, promptly declared war against him. And so the factional fight has continued with intensified bitterness and cruelty. It cannot be dignified as civil war, because neither faction has an organized government behind it. The three principal leaders and innumerable lesser chiefs, each with a little army or a band of brigands, have ravaged the country in successive campaigns of murder, robbery, rape and arson so destructive that large donations of food from the United States have been required to save the people from starvation.

Anarchy reigns in Mexico which has no government nor any prospect of ever having one. Most of its fifteen million inhabitants are the helpless prey of the hundred and fifty thousand armed plunderers that parade as revolutionists, and as there is little left worth stealing in Mexico large bands of these outlaws have resorted to the business of foreign intervention, they are plundering and murdering the people of Texas and even giving battle to the State militia and U. S. regulars.

The lawless conduct of Mexico has grown to be an intolerable menace to the peace of our citizens that border on that country, and President Wilson is now convinced that, for the protection of our citizens as well as in the interest of the Mexican people who have no hope of relief and no chance of foreign intervention, it is the duty of the United States to take vigorous action. At his request the governments of the leading nations of South and Central America have signed a declaration that, in case of foreign intervention in Mexico to stop fighting, agree on a temporary government, and then submit to the result of a general election. But as General Carranza has spurned the proposition and refused to induce all factions in Mexico to stop fighting, agree on a temporary government, and then submit to the result of a general election. But as General Carranza has spurned the proposition and refused to induce all factions in Mexico to stop fighting, agree on a temporary government, and then submit to the result of a general election. But as General Carranza has spurned the proposition and refused to induce all factions in Mexico to stop fighting, agree on a temporary government, and then submit to the result of a general election.

COMFORT'S EDITOR.



*Pithy Little Advertisements that are Interesting, Instructive and Profitable to Read, for they put you wise to the newest and best in the market and keep you in touch with the world's progress.*

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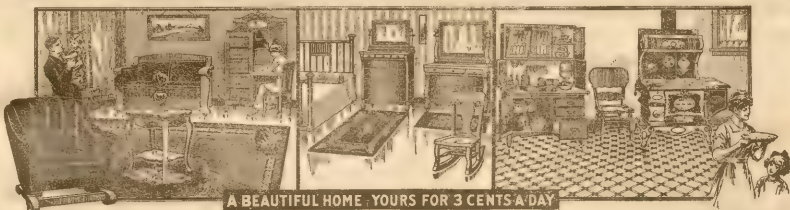












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And for this occasion we have published a special Bargain Book. It is bigger than ever—finer than ever. It has over 5,000 pictures, and page after page in colors. It costs us over \$1 per copy, but every home which writes us now may have a copy free.

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Special Jubilee Edition  
5000 Pictures  
Special Prices  
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Solid Oak  
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beautifully finished in  
rich golden brown  
leather. The  
leaves are  
full length, firmly braced  
to the seat by oak cross  
slats. The seat is in oak supported  
by broad and deeply  
ribbed and side apron front.

Black Royal imitation Leather. Fur-  
nished not to crack or peel, is used in  
covering the seat, which measures  
16 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches. It is nicely padded,  
giving extra comfort. Chair stands  
18 1/2 inches high and is  
18 1/2 inches wide. Shipping weight of six, about  
75 lbs. No. C-46466. Price, set of six, \$6.95

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chaise, front, shaped front posts, heavily carved with heavy  
carving in rich golden oak, perfect in  
Royal Spanish imitation Leather, rich brown in color, guaran-  
teed not to crack or peel, is smoothly laid over the seat and  
back. The back has a handsome pillow effect. The upholster-  
ing is of fine highest quality, over of custom set springs  
firmly braced to prevent sagging. The underlaid seat is a  
spring-mattress for sleeping, not a floor, mattress measure  
18 1/2 inches high and is 18 1/2 inches wide. Arms are unusually large,  
measuring nearly 5 inches in width. Shipping weight, about 145 lbs.  
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Chairs Easily from Davenport into a full size bed. By simply  
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Matchless in Value, beautiful in design. Finished in a rich  
golden shade. We offer only a limited quantity of these rockers.  
Frame frame is made of selected oak, curved from front posts  
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Rocker stands 18 inches high, exactly back is 20 1/2 inches high  
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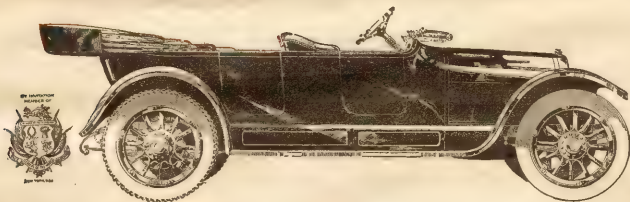
1916 Six

Model 83

Overland  
TRADE MARK REG.

\$1145

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Roomy seven-passenger touring car  
 Quiet 45 horsepower six cylinder motor  
 Efficiently lubricated—unusually economical  
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**\$250** for reliable man or woman; distributor \$100 for each pair. Borax Powder with Soap Water, in your home. No money advanced needed.

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### Edna's Secret Marriage

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

"Yes," said the duchess; "I think so. Look at Lord Mersey now! I suppose you are a botanist, are you?"

"I don't know the names of half the common flowers," said Edna.

"What is it—minerals, air currents, shells?"

"What my dear? Something has attracted his

Edna blushed under this cross-examination.

Then it must have been my supreme ignorance, your grace; no doubt that is it. He looks upon it as curious, quite phenomenal."

"Hem!" said the duchess. "He tells me you and he had a conversation in the Rosenedes garden the other day."

"I met him in the woods," said Edna.

"The duchess smiled, and taking up Edna's hand, turned it palm upward.  
"I am an old witch, my dear, and am particularly clever at reading the past lives of people. Let me see—" and she began tracing the delicate lines on the soft little palm. "What do you read there?"  
Edna drew her hand away suddenly, with a look almost of fear.  
The duchess stared at her with an amused smile.  
"My dear child, I was only joking! One would think you had some grand secret and wished to keep it."

Then you had consumed a midmost of this so suddenly that you were afraid would slip away. Why, when a woman is afraid you are first of all then red, and now pale again? But, turn, turn, were your mother" and she sighed—"I should send you to bed at nine o'clock for a month two."

There was something so motherly and affectionate in the trifling that Edna lowered her face a bad to struggle with her tears. If she had a mother! Why should they all treat her like innocent schoolgirl? If they only knew!

Miss Bromley could not go on playing all

Then without a word of thanks he turned away and strode over to Edna. But there was a storm in Edna's bosom that warned her she must beat a safe retreat while there was time and with a feeling of thankfulness she beseeched Lady Portfield to say that her carriage was waiting.

"Edna had to wait until it was gone, and when she stood looking on at the card table Lord Missy came up beside her."

"I'm going," he said, in his straightforward way. "I'm sure that if it was Miss Wootton who found me trespassing on her preserves, she'd better make a further apology and get a formal permission to repeat the offense."

Edna laughed.

"The Rosemeade preserves and park, and anything else that interests you on the premises, is at your service," she said.

"But," he said, with a quick uprising of the eyebrows, "I'm not trespassing."

Edna blushed, half with annoyance at her want of skill in framing her sentence. "Come as often as you please, my lord," she said: "that is what I mean."

He took her hand and bowed low over it. "I shall avail myself of that gracious permission," he said, gravely, "for I love the Roseade woods. Good night."

The Roseade boys came dancing over the courtyard stones, footmen swung back curtains

steps ready to fling open doors and dash down steps, and Edna found herself in the carriage half wondering whether she had spent the evening sitting at the feet of a duchess.

Aunt Martha was enthusiastic in her praise of the castle and its illustrious inmates. "As for the duchess, my dear Edna, it is impossible to feel anything but a great ease with her. I have twice seen her and she is the highest, wise, good society, the more natural and simple—the one Edna needs the people. And so it must be when you come to consider it. Have you enjoyed yourself dearly?"

"Very much, aunt."

"I am very glad of that. How beautiful the dress of yours looked! Black and silver all suited you. And that was Lord Mersey with his high forehead and the dark eyes? Very clever, he not, my dear?"

"Very, aunt," said Edna, dutifully, as she leaned back and closed her eyes, and then Aunt Martha, overtired by excitement, leaned back among the luxurious cushions and went to sleep too. But Edna was not asleep; she was thinking - thinking and traveling back to that summer

eve when he had taken her close to his breast  
 and whispered those sweet, fervent words that  
 seemed to burn into her heart: to that autumn  
 morn when she knelt by his side before the altar  
 and heard him swear to love and cherish her  
 better and for worse: to that summer eve, again,  
 when he stood before her, stern and pained,  
 and bade her go her way and leave him to  
 his, promising that never would he claim in  
 honor and obedience that she had promised him  
 that day.

to think of it all was to court madness: it had neared More Park, were close upon it. The moon was high in the heavens, and shilling down a storm of rain. In the road round about them the hedges, avenues, the gravel, the shining like marble in the moonlight, every tree and every shrub standing out like a piece of carving against the soft blue light.

Suddenly Aunt Martha feels her arm grasp and hears a low cry of alarm.

"What is it my dear Edna?" she exclaims, waking suddenly, and starting straight before her.

"Look, aunt! Quick! quick! Do you see?"

"See—where—what?" asks Aunt Martha.  
"There, in the avenue—a man! Look!"  
Aunt Martha looks and sees, quite plainly,  
tall man standing in the avenue of More Fa  
looking up at More House.  
"Yes, my dear. I see him! It's very stran  
What can it be? Perhaps it's a gamekeeper."  
"No, no," breathes Edna, and she is trembl  
terribly, "It is not a gamekeeper. I know it  
am sure of it! He is there for no good; h  
can be at such a time of night! He has  
right there! No right there!"

**FREE**

15	22	5	18	12	1	14
13	1	24	23	5	12	12
3	8	5	22	18	15	12
6	15	18	4			
19	1	24	15	14		

number 7, C number 8 etc. then count the alphabets we will send you a SURPRISE PACKAGE. FIRST CARRY ON WITH IT. IT'S A BURNING BRAIN. Try and explain it to five words. A trial, a letter, a word, with your solution, a PRIZE PACKAGE which is a home-borne sensation. For the first 24 hours of the Young Magazine, A CONTEST, which closes Dec. 23, 1915. Are you in? We will give you a PRIZE. A PRIZE, in which we give away FIVE AUTOMOBILES. A and a SAXON—All of them brand new of the latest type. CASH PRIZES, etc. In case of a tie, the character and the prize will be given each, please.

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Could you send \$5.00 a day for a little spare time? Perhaps I can offer you a steady job. If you will write me a letter or a postal card at once and say "Send me your special offer," I will send you samples and styles to pick from; my surprising liberal offer.

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had seen him before," and she looked out of the window fearfully, but the carriage had left the avenue far behind by that time, and they were coming to a halt.

"I shall fall back with low, terrified sob. Husband, my dear!" soothed Aunt Martha "over-tired and excited, very naturally, too. My dear child!"

"Is it right there? Surely if any man had a right to stand in the avenue of More Park, Cyril Ma-

the owner, and that right, for it was he and no other. And why had he come there on that moonlight night? Possibly to say farewell to the home of his forefathers before he turned his back once more, and perhaps for the last time. For that—to say farewell, and also for some other object.

[illegible]

Unless Other Price Is Stated

# Freckles

**Tan or Liver Spots positively removed** by using **Stillman's Freckle Cream**. Prepared for one purpose only—*clearing the skin*. If you have freckles, write us today for our **Free Booklet**. *Wouldn't Them Be Fair?* Stillman's Cream is sold by most druggists. See a jar, or direct from us, same price, prepaid. Write now. We can help you.

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## PRIZE-PACKET

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**WIN  
A  
PRIZE**

Each one of these five lines of figures spells a word. The five words constitute five articles that we are giving away. This most interesting package is solved with a little study as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet and we have used figures in spelling the five

IF YOU CAN SPELL OUT THESE FIVE WORDS CONTAINING 5 BEAUTIFUL GOLD EMBOSSED LETTERS, GRAB YOUR PRIZE AND WIN IT QUICKLY. Write the five words on a slip of paper and you will promptly receive as your reward 144.00 of five beautifully colored Gold Embossed Postals of the "GOLDEN STATE OF CALIFORNIA" and a GOLD CERTIFICATE OF ENTRY in the GRAND PRIZE. This is your opportunity to enter this great contest OVERLAND, A MAXWELL, A CHEVROLET, A FORD, A 1916 model—also PIANO, PHONOGRAPH, GOLD and a host of many other prizes. Write your name, address, TRY AND WIN. Address: 33d St., Dept. 102, New York















































# Home Advance



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Here is the rarest money-saving opportunity you ever heard of—an opportunity so exceptional, so important as to warrant the keenest interest on the part of every home-maker, everywhere. To prove to you that the Hartman prices are lowest, the Hartman credit terms most liberal, Hartman alone extends to you this wonderful "retail-guarantee" offer unparalleled in merchandising. Hartman invites every reader of this paper to order any one of the items advertised on this page without sending any money in advance. But we can only afford to send one item to each family at these terms. When you get our mammoth catalog, order whatever you wish—any amount—any number of articles—make small monthly payments to suit your convenience—we extend to you our wise, open, helpful credit. Take advantage of the opportunity to get acquainted with the fair, open, honest Hartman plan.

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**Size: 8' x 10'**

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**No. M1244.** This elegant solid oak, fumed finish, three-piece library set, featuring newest style and upholstery work, is different from any other set of its kind. It is constructed with square legs, top, back and lower seat, each edge solidated. Elastic match, then on the back of the chair, solid comfort arms and luxurious leather have been removed. Backs with the corner panel filled and upholstered. The arms are covered with a fine cloth. The price is \$119.00. Price ————

**"Regent" Steel Range Bargain**

**No. M1246.** Combination with high warming cabinet. Top has large oven. Back has two doors. Double top, oven, broiler, and a large oven. The oven is a better than any other. It is constructed with square legs, top, back and lower seat, each edge solidated. Elastic match, then on the back of the chair, solid comfort arms and luxurious leather have been removed. Backs with the corner panel filled and upholstered. The arms are covered with a fine cloth. The price is \$119.00. Price ————

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**3-Piece Solid Oak Library Set**

**No. M1245.** Charming Brussels Rug in a very new design, woven in excellent work. It is a better than any other. It is constructed with square legs, top, back and lower seat, each edge solidated. Elastic match, then on the back of the chair, solid comfort arms and luxurious leather have been removed. Backs with the corner panel filled and upholstered. The arms are covered with a fine cloth. The price is \$119.00. Price ————

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